

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 2, 8, 10-16, 22, 24-30, 36, and 38-40 as indicated below.

The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An e-mail processing method comprising the steps of:

identifying a data type of each [[data]] part included in a received e-mail, the received e-mail comprising ~~a plurality of different types of data~~ being a multi-part e-mail;

determining whether each [[data]] part included in the received e-mail can be processed, in accordance with the identified data type of each [[data]] part;

storing ~~the data~~ a part that can be processed, included in the received e-mail, if it is determined in said determining step that the [[data]] part can be processed; and

deleting ~~the data~~ a part that cannot be processed, included in the received e-mail, if it is determined in said determining step that the [[data]] part cannot be processed.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A method according to Claim 1, further comprising the [[steps]] step of:

registering data types ~~of data~~ that can be processed, in advance; and,

wherein it is determined in said determining step that ~~the data~~ a part can be processed~~[[,]]~~ when the identified data type of [[data]] the part coincides with [[the]] a registered

data type of data.

Claims 3-7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (currently amended): A method according to Claim 1, wherein a presence of ~~the data~~ a part that cannot be processed is notified to a user.

Claim 9 (canceled)

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Claim 10 (currently amended): A method according to Claim 1, wherein, when it has been determined that ~~the data~~ a part cannot be processed, a subsequent process is selectable from among a plurality of predetermined processes.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A method according to Claim 1, wherein ~~[[the]] a~~ data type of data comprises a part that can be processed is a text.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A method according to Claim 1, wherein ~~[[the]] a~~ data type of data comprises a part that can be processed is an image.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A method according to Claim 1, wherein identification of ~~[[the]] a~~ data type of data is performed by analyzing the received e-mail.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A method according to Claim 1, wherein a ~~character string is retrieved from the received e-mail, and the~~ data type of ~~[[data]]~~ a part is identified in said identifying step according to a reference character string specified based on a position in the received e-mail ~~where the retrieved~~ of a predetermined character string ~~is present in the received e-mail.~~

Claim 15 (currently amended): An e-mail processing apparatus comprising:  
type identification means for identifying a data type of each ~~[[data]]~~ part included in a received e-mail, the received e-mail ~~comprising a plurality of different types of data being a~~ multi-part e-mail;

determination means for determining whether each ~~[[data]]~~ part included in the received e-mail can be processed, in accordance with the identified data type of each ~~[[data]]~~ part;

storing means for storing the data a part that can be processed, included in the received e-mail, if said determination means determines that the ~~[[data]]~~ part can be processed;  
and

deleting means for deleting ~~the data~~ a part that cannot be processed, included in the received e-mail, if said determination means determines that the ~~[[data]]~~ part cannot be processed.

Claim 16 (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 15, further

comprising storage means for storing data types of data that can be processed, wherein said determination means determines that ~~the data~~ a part can be processed[[.]] when the identified type of [[data]] the part coincides with [[the]] a stored data type of data.

Claims 17-21 (canceled)

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Claim 22 (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 15, further comprising notification means for notifying a user of a presence of ~~the data~~ a part that cannot be processed.

Claim 23 (canceled)

Claim 24 (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 15, further comprising selection means for causing a subsequent process to be selectable from among a plurality of predetermined processes, when said determination means determines that a [[data]] part cannot be processed.

Claim 25 (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein [[the]] a data type of data ~~comprises~~ a part that can be processed is a text.

Claim 26 (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein

[[the]] a data type of data comprises a part that can be processed is an image.

Claim 27 (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said type identification means identifies [[the]] a data type of data by analyzing the received e-mail.

Claim 28 (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said type identification means ~~retrieves a character string from the received e-mail, and identifies~~ [[the]] a data type of [[data]] a part according to a reference character string specified based on a position ~~in the received e-mail where the retrieved~~ of a predetermined character string ~~is present~~ in the received e-mail.

Claim 29 (currently amended): A computer-readable storage medium storing control software for implementing an e-mail process, the control software comprising:

a control program for identifying a data type of each [[data]] part included in a received e-mail, the received e-mail ~~comprising a plurality of different types of data being a~~ multi-part e-mail;

a control program for determining whether each [[data]] part included in the received e-mail can be processed, in accordance with the identified data type of each [[data]] part;

a control program for storing ~~the data~~ a part that can be processed, included in the received e-mail, if it is determined by said control program for determining that the [[data]] part

can be processed; and

a control program for deleting ~~the data~~ a part that cannot be processed, included in the received e-mail, if it is determined by said control program for determining that the ~~[[data]]~~ part cannot be processed.

Claim 30 (currently amended): A storage medium according to Claim 29, wherein the control software further comprises:

a control program for reading data types ~~of data~~ that can be processed, which have been registered in advance in a memory; and,

[[a]] wherein it is determined by said control program for determining that the data a part can be processed[[.]] when the identified data type of ~~[[data]]~~ the part coincides with ~~[[the]]~~ a read data type ~~of data~~.

Claims 31-35 (canceled)

Claim 36 (currently amended): A storage medium according to Claim 29, wherein the control software further comprises a control program for notifying a user of a presence of ~~the data~~ a part that cannot be processed.

Claim 37 (canceled)

Claim 38 (currently amended): A storage medium according to Claim 29, wherein the control software further comprises a control program for causing a subsequent process to be selectable from among a plurality of predetermined processes, when it has been determined that ~~the data~~ a part cannot be processed.

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Claim 39 (currently amended): A storage medium according to Claim 29, wherein the ~~control software further comprises a control program for identifying~~ [[the]] identifies a data type ~~of data~~ by analyzing the received e-mail.

Claim 40 (currently amended): A control program according to Claim 29, wherein the control ~~software further comprises a control program for retrieving a character string from the received e-mail, and identifying~~ [[the]] identifies a type of [[data]] a part according to a character string specified based on a position ~~in the received e-mail where the retrieved~~ of a predetermined character string is present in the received e-mail.

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